What is claimed is:

1. A data monitoring method comprising:

monitoring each copy element of monitoring object data consisting of at least one kind of copy element in accordance with at least one kind of copy inhibition information capable of being updated and stored in inhibition information storage; and

inhibiting input or output of the monitoring object data if the monitoring determines that said each copy element agrees with a kind of said copy inhibition information.

2. A data monitoring method according to claim 1, in which in the step of updating the copy inhibition information, the updating should be valid only when an authorized person executes the updating.

3. A data monitoring method according to claim 1, in which updating information of the copy inhibition information is provided by a removable storage media.

4. A data monitoring method according to claim 1, in which updating information of the copy inhibition information is provided by an information providing medium.

5. A data monitoring method according to claim 1, in which updating information of the copy inhibition information is provided passing through a network.

6. A data monitoring method according to claim 1, further

comprising:

storing updating logs when the copy inhibition information stored in the inhibition information storage is updated; and

in which in the step of updating copy inhibition information, the updating should be executed only when the updating information of the copy inhibition information is later than the stored log information.

7. A data monitoring method according to claim 1, further comprising:

controlling a copy inhibition or a inhibition cancel in accordance with secrecy management information and user's secrecy management level, said secrecy management information stored in the inhibition information storage in addition to the copy inhibition information in advance.

8. A data monitoring method according to claim 1, further comprising:

obtaining the copy inhibition information by requesting to a master information storage when originals of the copy inhibition information are stored in the master information storage on the network.

9. A data monitoring method according to claim 8, comprising:

controlling a copy inhibition or a inhibition cancel in accordance with secrecy management information and user's secrecy management level, said secrecy management information obtained together with the copy inhibition information at the step of obtaining the information, said secrecy management information stored in the master inhibition information storage in addition to the original copy inhibition information in advance.

10.   A data monitoring method according to claim 1, comprising:

canceling a function of stopping the copying after confirming if a user has a right to cancel the monitoring function or not.

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11.   A data monitoring device comprising:

an inhibition information storage storing at least one kind of copy inhibition information that can be updated;

monitoring means monitoring at least one kind of copy element

10   prepared from monitoring object data based on the copy inhibition information; and

inhibition means inhibiting input or output of the monitoring object data if said at least one copy element included in the monitoring object data agrees with one of the copy inhibition information.

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12.   A data monitoring device according to claim 11, further comprising:

updating means updating the copy inhibition information.

20   13.   A data monitoring device according to claim 12, in which the updating means inhibits the updating when the updating is not executed by a user having a right to update and the copy inhibition information has the management information of the updating right as an attribute.

25   14.   A data monitoring device according to claim 12, in which the updating information is provided by a removable storage medium.

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15.   A data monitoring device according to claim 12, in which the updating information is obtained from an information providing medium.

16.   A data monitoring device according to claim 15, in which the copy
5   inhibition information is obtained passing through the network.

17.   A data monitoring device according to claim 12, further comprising:

        a log storage storing updating logs when the copy inhibition
10 information in the inhibition information storage are updated; and

        in which the updating means obtains the latest copy inhibition information based on the logs of the updating information.

18.   A data monitoring device according to claim 12, further
15 comprising:

        secrecy management means storing in the inhibition information storage secrecy management information in addition to the copy inhibition information, and controlling a copy inhibition or a inhibition cancel in accordance with secrecy management information and user's secrecy
20 management level.

19.   A data monitoring device according to claim 12, further comprising:

        a master information storage on the network storing originals of
25 the copy inhibition information; and

        information obtaining means obtaining the copy inhibition information by requesting to the master information storage.

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20.   A data monitoring device according to claim 19, in which the master storage stores secrecy management information of each original information in addition to the copy inhibition information;

5   the information obtaining means obtains the copy inhibition information and the secrecy management information; and

further comprising:

secrecy management means controlling a copy inhibition or a inhibition cancel in accordance with the obtained secrecy management

10   information and user's secrecy management level.

21.   A data monitoring device according to claim 12, further comprising:

canceling means canceling a function of stopping the copying after

15   confirming if a user has a right to cancel the monitoring function or not.

22.   A copying device comprising:

first specific information extracting means extracting an ID information unique to a specific device concerned with the preparation of

20   monitoring object data; and

information imparting means imparting the ID information to the monitoring object data and preparing a new copied data.

23.   A copying device according to claim 22, in which the ID

25   information is chip ID information imparted to Central Processing Unit (CPU).

24.   A copying device according to claim 22, in which the ID information is an IP address imparted to a device.

25.   A copying device comprising:

5   second specific information extracting means extracting a specific application information unique to software concerned with the preparation of monitoring object data; and

information imparting means imparting the specific application information to the monitoring object data and preparing a new copied data.

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26.   A copying device according to claim 25, in which the specific application information is a mail address registered by a user.

27.   A copying device receiving an monitoring object data from an 15   external device and preparing a copy based on the monitoring object data, comprising:

extracting means analyzing the monitoring object data and extracting unique information specifying a specific device concerned with the preparation of the monitoring object data; and

20   specific information imparting means imparting the extracted unique information to the monitoring object data.

28.   A copying device according to claim 27, in which the unique information is an ID number specifying a personal computer.

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29.   A copying device according to claim 27, in which the unique information is an IP address imparted to a device.

30.   A copying device receiving an monitoring object data from an external device and preparing a copy based on the monitoring object data, comprising:

5   extracting means analyzing the copied data and extracting unique information specifying specific software concerned with the preparation of the copied data; and

           specific information imparting means imparting the extracted unique information to the copied data as new copied data.

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31.   A copying device according to claim 30, in which the unique information is a mail address registered by a user.

32.   A copying device according to claim 30, in which the unique 15   information is registration information of software.

33.   A copying device adapting to the network of receiving an monitoring object data from an external device and preparing a copy based on the monitoring object data, comprising:

20   extracting means extracting an IP address imparted to the copying device; and

           specific information imparting means imparting the extracted IP address to the copied data as new copied data.

25   34.   A storage medium storing programs comprising:

           monitoring each copy element being monitoring object data consisting of at least one kind of copy element in accordance with at least one

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kind of copy inhibition information capable of being updated and stored in inhibition information storage; and

inhibiting to input or output the monitoring object data if the monitoring determines that said each copy element agrees with a kind of said copy inhibition information.

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35. A storage medium storing a program comprising;

controlling a copy inhibition or a inhibition cancel in accordance with secrecy management information and user's secrecy management level, said secrecy management information stored in the inhibition information storage in addition to the copy inhibition information in advance.

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36. A storage medium executed by a copying apparatus preparing a copy according to monitoring object data after receiving the monitoring object data from an external device or after preparing the monitoring object data by itself, which storing programs comprising:

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extracting ID information unique to a specific device concerned with the preparation of the monitoring object data; and

imparting the ID information to the monitoring object data and preparing a new copied data

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37. A storage medium executed by a copying apparatus preparing a copy according to monitoring object data after receiving the monitoring object data from an external device or after preparing the monitoring object data by itself, which storing programs comprising:

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extracting specific application information unique to software concerned with the preparation of the monitoring object data; and

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imparting the specific application information to the monitoring object data and preparing a new copied data.

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